
Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held on December 30, 2020

An Open Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC or Commission) was held on December 30, 2020 at 10:00 A.M. in Hearing Room A, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island to discuss, deliberate, and/or vote on the following docket.

In attendance: Chairman Ronald Gerwatowski and Todd Bianco. Remotely: Commissioner Marion Gold, Commissioner Abigail Anthony, Cynthia Wilson-Frias, John Harrington, Alan Nault, Rudolph Falcone and Luly Massaro.

I. Chairman Gerwatowski called the Open Meeting to order at 10:04 A.M. A quorum was present.

II. **Docket No. 5088 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid and the RI Distributed Generation Board (DG Board)** - This docket relates to the 2021 Renewable Energy Growth Program proposals submitted by National Grid and the DG Board. Green Development LLC filed a motion to intervene. Objection to Green Development’s motion was received from National Grid and the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers.

After a review of merits of Green Development’s motion and the objections submitted, Chairman Gerwatowski moved that Green Development’s request is granted in part and denied in part. Specifically, Green Development’s motion is granted in part with the narrow scope limited to the question whether there was an error in the calculation of the change in the value of the federal tax incentive that has an effect on the ceiling prices; and denied in part on the issue that Green Development has been affected by direct assignment of facilities charges. Green Development’s may issue narrowly tailored data requests only to the question whether an error has been made in the calculation of the federal tax incentive and the extent to which any error had effects on the ceiling prices. Further, Green Development must submit pre-filed testimony supporting its claim of error, including proposed solution. If, however, Green Development is unable to reasonable support its claim of error within pre-filed testimony, the intervention may be dismissed by the Commission. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

III. **Docket No. 5085 - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – This docket relates to National Grid’s Long-Term Contracting for Renewable Energy Recovery (LTC Recovery Factor) for the period January 2021 through June 2021. The PUC considered National Grid’s compliance filing submitted in accordance with the PUC’s Open Meeting decision on December 22, 2020. After review, Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve the compliance filing. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

IV. **Docket No. 4978 - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** - Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-1-27.3(b), the Standard Offer Service (SOS) is set to expire on December 31, 2020. National Grid submitted a compliance filing in accordance with PUC's Open Meeting decision on July 23, 2020. The purpose of the compliance filing is to change references of SOS contained within the Company's tariffs to Last Resort Service (LRS). The tariffs are to become effective January 1, 2021. After review, Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve the compliance filing. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

V. **Docket No. 5076 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – This docket relates to the National Grid's Company's 2021-2023 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Procurement Plan (Three-Year Plan) and 2021 Annual Energy Efficiency and Conservation Procurement Program Plan (Annual Plan), referred to collectively as the Combined Plan. The Combined Plan is a settlement between National Grid, the Office of Energy Resources (OER), the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers, (Division), the Energy Efficiency and Resource Management Council (EERMC), Acadia Center, and the Green Energy Consumers Alliance (collectively, the Settlement Parties). The Combined Plan includes proposed budgets and associated Energy Efficiency Charge for effect January 1, 2021.

The Commission discussed residual items on the docket. Specifically, the PUC discussed proposed approaches to reviewing the proposed performance incentive mechanism (PIMs). The PUC also discussed, what is expected if there is a legislative budget transfer that would affect the amount that is collected through the energy efficiency charge. After discussion, Chairman Gerwatowski moved that in the event there is an approved legislative budget transfer, the PUC will reopen the docket to examine the effect on the energy efficiency budget and programs. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

VI. The Open Meeting at 10:31 A.M. A video of the Open Meeting discussion can be accessed at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/WqQyXw296dg>.